

level are expected to have more ability than those judges at the pinnacle or the highest level. The Supreme Court can choose which cases it will hear. That brings us to what I call the big-shot court syndrome. The big shots are going to get their day in the Supreme Court because, as Mr. Dooley said, the Supreme Court follows the election returns, but in addition to following the election returns, the Supreme Court judges are very cognizant of which people and interests are important in this society. They are cognizant of those for whom they feel the court system exists. The court system does not exist for the likes of those of us in this legislative body. The appellate court will be the peon court. That is as high in the structure as ordinary people can expect their case to go, and I think it is cynical, it is unfair to create a system which, in the very beginning, has these flaws, flaws which we are aware of and know...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...will come to fruition if this court is put in place. I know this is not the kind of subject that has people excited, that makes the heart palpitate or the palms sweat. But it is the kind of bill that is going to create a system that, when it begins to operate, is going to cause that impact on a lot of the citizens. They are going to think they have the right to appeal to the Supreme Court, only to be told, no, you don't. It can be the misfortune of some person to have to go through three steps instead of two to get to the Supreme Court. You go through county court, district court. You go through the appellate court, and then you might get an appeal to the Supreme Court. The expense of going to the appellate court may be greater than the amount of going through the lower courts, and then you still have to go to the Supreme Court. It creates another layer. It creates more difficulty, more expense, and will be a bar to justice for ordinary people, rather than a facilitator of it.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time. Thank you, Senator Chambers. Before we proceed, I would like to introduce two guests of Senator Lindsay. They are under the north balcony. They are Mary Minino and Pat Kyker from Omaha. Would you please stand and be welcomed by the Legislature. Thank you for being with us. We will now proceed to discussion on the Chambers amendment. Senator Wehrbein, do you wish to discuss the amendment?